United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea SPLOS/275

Meeting of States Parties

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Twenty-fourth Meeting
New York, 9-13 June 2014

Decisions on budgetary matters of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for 2015-2016

1. The Meeting of States Parties, having considered the draft budget proposals of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for 2015-2016 (SPLOS/2014/WP.1), approved the amount of €18,886,200 as the budget of the Tribunal for 2015-2016, which represents a reduction of €1,159,100 compared with the proposed budget as it appears in annex I to the above-mentioned document. The Meeting notes that this represents a decrease of €2,352,920 compared with the amount approved for the financial period 2013-2014.

2. Pursuant to regulation 5.3 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the Tribunal (SPLOS/120), the contributions of States parties for each of the two years of the biennium 2015-2016 shall be determined on the basis of half of the appropriations adopted by the Meeting of States Parties for that financial period.

3. On the basis of the report on budgetary matters for the financial periods 2011-2012 and 2013-2014 (SPLOS/268), the Meeting notes that the surplus cash from the financial period 2011-2012 amounts to €879,051. The Meeting decided that, of that amount, €529,051 would be surrendered and deducted from the contributions of States parties for 2015, in accordance with financial regulation 4. It also decided that an amount of €350,000 would be transferred, on an exceptional basis, to the Working Capital Fund, to cover the cost of considering cases that cannot be met from the funds allocated for case-related costs.

4. The Meeting encourages the Registrar to continue to manage the funds in a prudent and efficient manner, trying to achieve optimum utilization of the financial resources of the Tribunal. The Meeting requests the Registrar to explore ways of making additional savings in the budget of the Tribunal, keeping in mind the need for the Tribunal to function effectively, and to report on this matter to the Meeting at its next session.

5. Without prejudice to the application of the provisions of article 19 of annex VI to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in respect of future budgets of the Tribunal regarding the contribution to be made by the International Seabed Authority, the budget of the Tribunal for 2015-2016 will be financed by all States

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parties to the Convention. The European Union indicated that the amount of the agreed contribution to the budget of the Tribunal would be €85,365 for each year.

6. The Meeting also decided that a floor rate of 0.01 per cent and a ceiling rate of 22 per cent are to be used in establishing the rate of assessment of States parties for the budget of the Tribunal for 2015-2016.